

SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE SATELLITE FLYER

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NEWS



ASYMCA comes to Schriever to offer military members memberships at special rates.

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FEATURE



Unique 4th Space Operations Squadron mobile command and control unit deploys

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SPORTS



Teams continue to give it all as the intramural softball season plays on.

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Wing excels in no notice exercise

Staff Sgt. STEVE HORTON
50th Space Wing Public Affairs

Schriever Air Force Base emergency response teams sprang into action July 17



Staff Sgt. Mark Howland, 50th Civil Engineer Squadron, acts as incident commander and coordinates with fire and rescue units on scene during the recent exercise, while Pat Kellogg, 50th CES/CEF looks on and SOME COP DOES SOMETHING.

when a call came into the base that a small plane had crashed in the field adjacent to the new fitness center.

Within minutes, fire crews and medical technicians were on the scene evacuating and treating the injured, while security forces personnel secured the area and rerouted traffic.

That was the scenario thrown at the 50th Space Wing by inspectors from the wing's Inspector General office in a "no notice" major accident response exercise.

"These exercises are designed to test the wing's readiness and the ability to react to a major accident," said Tech. Sgt. Kirby Hills, 50th SW IG office. "It exercises their initial response to a situation."

Also participating in the exercise

◀ Senior Airman David Drennon, 10th Medical Group Emergency Medical Technician, administers aid to James Salazar, one of the wounded from the simulated plane crash. Salazar, a cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy, was one of several cadets to volunteer as role players for the exercise.



photos by Staff Sgt. Steve Horton



▲ 1st Lt. Kneilan Novak, 50th Operations Group, volunteered to play the dead pilot for the scenario.

◀ Eric Czarnecki, 50th CES/CEF, examines an injured person to determine the extent of his injuries. Schriever firefighters were the first to arrive on scene and had to deal with fire and rescuing the injured.



Building Community...
Why It's So Important

Lt. Col. GERALD COSTELLO
50th Mission Support Squadron

The Air Force has a good track record of helping to create a sense of community but more can, and is, being done in this area. Why is this so important? By definition, a community is where people can turn when they're facing challenges and difficult situations. A community is something that provides support when you're new to an area and facing all the challenges of relocating. A community is something your family can be a part of when you're deployed for months on end. Creating a sense of community is not just the right thing to do for the Air Force; there are practical benefits that will have a positive impact on the mission, as well.

At Schriever, we have some unique challenges to building community. We lack many of the programs, agencies and facilities that encourage informal linkages and friendships that are essential elements of a community. We don't have the open messes, family housing, chapel, Little League and kids soccer, community center and other similar facilities and programs that create natural focal points for people to get together. The people working at Schriever, military as well as civilian, live in communities scattered throughout the Pikes Peak region, making it challenging to get them together after work.

AFSPC had a team at Schriever last February conducting a series of focus groups, and what they found was that, although we do have challenges, we also have a great deal going for us. Participants in most of the focus groups felt that wing leadership understood the challenges we face at Schriever, and were committed to making it better. Facilities to enhance the quality of life were limited now, but are definitely growing, for example, the new Child Development Center and Fitness Center now under construction. Pride in our mission and what we do at Schriever was another reoccurring theme across most of the focus groups.

We have started the community building process at the top base levels. Consistent with HQ Air Force and the MAJCOM, a Community Action Information Board, or CAIB, consisting of the key leadership at the wing and group levels and providing overall direction, was established late last year. The CAIB will make the key decisions and provide the necessary resources for our community building efforts.

The Community Wellness Working Group or CWWG is the CAIB's "action arm." Agencies key to the community building process are represented in the group, including Services, Family Support Center, HAWC, Chaplain, JA, Military Equal Opportunity, Diamond Council, and the 10th MDG. This group will implement the policy of the CAIB, by coordinating programs and activities when they cross agency lines, and looking for ways to improve communication and cooperation among all the helping agencies. We're moving from an environment where we once competed for customers, programs and resources to one of collaboration and cooperation.

The Air Force-wide effort to improve our sense of community represents an important shift in philosophy. We're moving away from reacting to problems as they appear to being proactive and trying to remediate the source cause and prevent them from occurring. While building community starts with the leadership and key helping agencies, it will take everyone's effort to make it work; from taking the extra time and effort as a sponsor to make a new arrival feel welcome and part of the organization to recognizing the efforts of the person who fixed your computer or made you a new ID card or security badge by saying thanks whenever possible. Each of us is a key component of this thing we call the Schriever community.

Let's recognize those
who choose to stay in

Chief MASTER SGT. DONALD KRIETE
14th Air Force Command

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — Every day, on any military base, there's an announcement about a retirement ceremony for Lt. Col. So-and-so or Master Sgt. What's-his-name.

Last year, within two months, I went to six retirement ceremonies. During the ceremonies, the soon-to-be civilians were presented mementos and medals to honor their distinguished Air Force careers. Rightfully so, they earned it.

But this tradition caused me to ponder over something while I was reenlisting recently — we need to show our airmen the advantages of staying with the Air Force in the same fashion. We need to recognize and praise their choice to reenlist.

We all should have noticed by now that recruiting and retention are pretty hot topics with our top Air Force leaders.

Over the past 25 years, I've seen airmen and junior NCOs leaving the Air Force for various reasons, some personal and some professional.

Some airmen can get disillusioned during their first enlistment. They might not like living in the dorm's, or maybe their jobs aren't satisfying enough. They might have a personality conflict with a supervisor.

I'm not saying these aren't real problems for today's airmen, but in

the grand scheme of things, say a 20- or 30-year career, these are temporary situations. If we let our people leave the service without explaining the many benefits of staying with the Air Force, then we haven't upheld our end of the deal.

In fact, we've done that airman a disservice. We shouldn't allow an emotional situation to guide a person's decision to change the course of their life. When I talk to many of our first- and second-termers getting out, I discover they are not doing enough homework. Do they really know what it's like in the civilian job market? And do they really understand how loyal the Air Force is to its members and their families? The Air Force will stay with you as long as you stay with the Air Force, maybe longer.

Consider this: How many civilian-sector jobs can the entry-level employee walk in to and have immediate health care? How many know they can count on an opportunity for advancement? How many start out with 30 days of paid vacation per year? How many offer 75 percent tuition assistance? How many offer the recreational and family support programs we have in the Air Force?

Not many!

Some people talk about the good ol' days, back when we had twice as many people in the Air Force. I say "These are the good ol' days!"

Instead of four people to a dorm room, like I had as an airman, we now

have one-plus-one rooms. Today's airmen have more opportunities to get financial counseling and build wealth through investing. Even if they decide, based on logic not emotions, to leave the Air Force, we have a transition assistance program that will ease their job hunt. How many employers will help you market yourself better for your next job?

If our first-term airmen aren't satisfied with their jobs, encourage them to retrain rather than leave the service. When they reenlist and retrain, they can apply for a base of preference anywhere in the country they're needed. If they've already been out of the Air Force they can come back in.

Not only will we welcome them, we might even pay them a bonus.

My challenge to my fellow Air Force professionals is to reflect on what life in the Air Force has done for you. Look at what it will do for your family.

Listen to people who've decided to make it a career. Ask them "Why?" Share that with someone who's looking at leaving this great profession. The Air Force product is all about freedom for tomorrow, while corporate America is all about profit gain today—they have to be.

Recognize and praise the choice to reenlist. The airmen who stay with us will carry the flag into the future. Your involvement today will keep a strong and viable Air Force for tomorrow.

Software question gets answers

Q: Is it possible to have Software Install request forms authorized by E-mail?

A: A software load request is required for several reasons. First, it identifies, defines and validates the user's software requirement. Second, it provides an audit trail for configuration management and software licensing verification. We are accountable for all software running on wing computers. Third, it's a way to verify that the software is accredited/approved to run on our systems. Finally, it helps ensure network security because the software or disk will be checked for viruses prior to loading. "Why can't this be done electronically?" We are researching and trying to resolve several issues. The bottom line is

that we will try to implement an electronic solution if it's feasible to do so. We need to define the process and ensure we maintain information integrity and confidence. As we define the process we will also have to identify the roles of all key players including workgroup managers. Public key infrastructure is a program being implemented throughout the DoD, which will provide electronic signature authentication capability. We will begin implementation of PKI this year and it will be a major breakthrough for electronic staffing. Thank you for your suggestion. We will continue to look into this idea and determine the feasibility of allowing Schriever LAN customers to submit their software load requests via E-mail.

If you have a question for the Commander's hotline you can submit it via the LAN or the suggestion box outside the Satellite Dish Dining Facility. Anonymous hotlines will not be answered.

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Watch out for heedless hikers, careless campers

The great outdoors naturally lures many to enjoy the scenic splendor of the Pacific Northwest. Novices who venture out into the wilderness unprepared and on their own are headed for trouble early on. Before you take that summer trek into the woods, follow these tips to keep you on the safe path to hiking.

- * Plan the hike from start to finish by using trail books, forest service, topographical maps, etc.

- * Always tell someone where you’re going and when you expect to return.

- * Don’t hike alone.

- * Know how and where you can get help in an emergency.

- * Don’t overdo it. Know your limits and stick to them.

- * Travel light and take only what you need.

- * Wear comfortable, rugged shoes.

- * Check the weather and time hikes to get back before dark.

- * Take an emergency survival kit with you. Your kit should contain at least: Matches, candles, extra food and clothing, first-aid kit, compass, map, flashlight, tent, pocketknife and a signaling device.

If you become lost:

- * Remain calm and avoid panic.

- * Don’t proceed in another direction unless you are sure of what you are doing.

- * If you move, leave a note or mark the place with stones or sticks in-groups of three, which indicates “help.”

- * Show the direction of travel by making

trail pointers out of stones, brush, or twigs.

- * Attract attention with three distress signals. Three blast of a whistle, three shouts, three flashes of light.

- * Make a small fire out of green wood, which will produce a lot of smoke.

- * Try to keep warm, sheltered, and supplied with water.

- * Don’t wonder around in the dark. Wait until morning to find your way.

Share the Trail

Trails (or paths) for non-motorized use have become very popular. A consequence of their success is congestion. Regardless of whether you are bicycling, walking, jogging or skating, if you follow the same set of rules as everyone else, your trip will be safer and more enjoyable.

- * **Be courteous.** All trail users should be respectful of other users regardless of their mode, speed or level of skill.

- * **Keep right.** Stay as near to the right side of the trail as is safe, except when passing another user.

- * **Be predictable.** Travel in a consistent and predictable manner. Always look behind you before changing position on the trail.

- * **Pass on the left.** Pass others, going in your direction, on their left. Look ahead and back to make sure the lane is clear before you pull out.

(Courtesy of the 50th Space Wing Safety Office

News briefs

Proposed 2002 active duty pay table

DoD officials have released the proposed fiscal 2002 active duty military pay tables. The tables incorporate the proposed 4.6 percent pay raise service members would get if Congress approves the Bush administration’s fiscal 2002 DoD budget request and the targeted pay raise aimed at mid- level NCOs and officers.

If requests are approved, all service members would receive at least a 5 percent pay raise, with some receiving up to 10 percent. If approved, pay raises would go into effect Jan. 1, 2002.

Bright light signifies missile intercept success

If the bright flash of light wasn’t proof enough, the cheers that erupted in the Pacific Missile Range control room proved the success of the most ambitious U.S. missile defense test conducted to date.

At 11:07 p.m. Eastern time, a missile defense kill vehicle launched from Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands homed in on and destroyed a target warhead launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. The interception took place more than 140 miles above the Earth. The kill vehicle slammed into the warhead at more than 15,000 miles per hour.

“Tests take several weeks to deduce the data, but we believe we have a successful test in all aspects at this time,” said Air Force Lt. Gen. Ronald Kadish, director of the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization. He emphasized the test is “one stop on a journey. We have a long road ahead.”

DoD looking for money to fund readiness, modernization

The U.S. military is walking a fine line between maintaining today’s forces and preparing for defense transformation, DoD’s senior leaders told the House Appropriations Committee July 16.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and Army Gen. Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the defense subcommittee that years of underfunding and overuse have taken a toll on the department.

Rumsfeld said DoD, just to continue ongoing programs, would need \$18 billion more than the \$347 billion the administration recently requested. “To get well by 2007 — that is, to meet current requirements in areas like readiness, proper flying time, training, maintenance and so forth — would cost the American taxpayers tens of billions of dollars more, and that’s before calculating the additional investment that will be needed for transformation,” he said.

ASYMCA offers corporate membership to Schriever

TECH. SGT. KATE RUST
50th SPACE WING Public Affairs

Representatives from the Armed Services YMCA came to Schriever Air Force Base July 19 to enroll and inform the military public of their new southeast facility.

The ASYMCA offered corporate membership to Schriever personnel without the usual sign-up fee of \$75 or more for new members. This is concurrent with the opening of their new southeast facility in April 2002.

Membership includes use of all local YMCA main facilities, including Briargate, Fountain Valley, Downtown and the Southeast facilities.

According to Audrey Degenhardt, YMCA military outreach director, the ASYMCA is "a unique organization charged by the citizens of the Pikes Peak Region to provide programs and services for the many military families in the community. Ours is a YMCA serving the entire community while maintaining a focus on serving military families."

The new Southeast Family Center YMCA is located at 2190 Jet Wing Drive, adjacent to Sierra High School. The 72,000 square-foot facility will house two swimming pools, a family gym with an indoor climbing wall and a multi-purpose community meeting space to host a wide variety of organizations and activities.

"The YMCA is offering us family-focused recreation in the community where we live," said Patricia Czepiel, director of Schriever's family support office. "Family support is excited to be affiliated with the 'Y' and to the community through their auspices."

As an affiliate of the ASYMCA of the United States of America, the Southeast Family Center of the Pike's Peak Region YMCA offers a variety of programs for Peterson AFB, Schriever and Fort Carson military service members and their families, including:

Family nights at the YMCA
Summer day camps
Childcare during YMCA visits
Aerobics
Aquatics
** Parenting classes*
** Life Skill classes*
After school enrichment
Craft classes
Holiday dinners/dances
Healthy cooking classes
Military spouse day of pampering
** Volksmarches*
Children's carnivals
Airport welcome center
Kids adventure days



photo by Tech. Sgt. Kate Rust

Audrey Degenhardt, YMCA military outreach director, explains plans for the new multi-use recreational facility to Staff Sgt. David Hagar, 3rd Space Operations Squadron. The new facility, to serve all ages, is set to be built in the southeast quadrant of Colorado Springs off Chelton. Currently there is a YMCA facility off Academy and Astrozon which will close when the new facility opens in April of next year.

* In association with military family support centers

Degenhardt said representatives will visit the base on a monthly basis to continue to sign people up until the facility

opens. To find out more about the YMCA, call 393-9620, ext. 105.

The new-member sign-up waiver will be offered indefinitely, according to Czepiel.

Pro-rodeo offers taste of wild west while honoring armed forces

Staff Sgt. Mary Danner
50th Space Wing Public Affairs

Military members and Department of Defense employees will be given a chance to experience the wild, wild west at the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Aug. 8-12 at Penrose Stadium.

Every performance of the rodeo will be dedicated to the men and women of the armed forces and a portion of the proceeds from the rodeo will be donated to programs benefiting local military members and their families.

This year marks the 61st Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo. The rodeo was put on hold during the war years and started up again in

1946, according to Hal Littrell, chairman of the board for a local bank, rodeo treasurer and rodeo volunteer for the past 47 years.

The gentleman who restarted the rodeo after the war saw how the war had affected the local military and their families. Many of the vets had lost their assets during the war and were struggling when they returned home. This left on indelible impression on the gentleman and others to help the vets, added Littrell.

“It was then that rodeo organizers decided to dedicate the first performance to the men and women of the armed forces and especially to those who gave their lives,” Littrell said. The rodeo funds were given to the vets through the relief officers at the American Legion Post 5, Littrell added.

“Our primary focus continues to be to provide funds to the military and their charities.”

Proceeds donated to Schriever Air Force Base and the Peterson Complex have been used for a variety of programs. Funds from the 2000 Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo were used for Caring through Sharing holiday food baskets, the Peterson Food Pantry, the youth center and the financial management fund.

The rodeo will kick-off Aug. 8 with a parade at 10 a.m. The parade will start at Tejon and St. Vrain Streets. The procession will include trick riders, sharp shooters, broncobusters, bands and floats, including one designed and built by the 3rd Space Operations Squadron and the 50th Civil

Engineer Squadron.

Air Force Night will take place Aug. 8. The performance will begin at 7:30 p.m., and tickets are available at Information, Tickets and Tours, located in Bldg. 300, Rm. 146, for \$7.

The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo ranks among the top 20 Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association rodeos in the country. The event draws the county’s top cowboys and cowgirls, who compete for more than \$200,000 in prize money.

“The rodeo is a significant event in retaining our western heritage,” said Littrell. “It’s a professional rodeo with great entertainment and great family fun.”



Left to Right, Wade Osburn, Paul Meyer, Wesley Gammill, Cleveland Thompson, George Phillips, Mike Gieck, and Edwin Bartlett.

MLI Receives Safety Awards

Management Logistics, Inc. received safety awards from its Headquarters, Brown & Root Services, July 12 for going one year with no lost time accidents. MLI is a 50th Space Wing contractor providing the full range of civil engineering services-design, construction, and maintenance-for the space operations missions in buildings 400 and 401.

Paul Meyer and Mike Gieck received awards on behalf of MLI's Maintenance and Construction teams, while Ray Vigil received the quarterly construction safety award, Brad Bingman the quarterly maintenance safety award and Tom James, the MLI employee of the quarter award.

"Going one year with no lost time accidents is a significant achievement considering the nature of MLI's work," said Cleveland Thompson, MLI's safety manager, praising the MLI employees for their personal and professional dedication in maintaining a safe work place.

On hand for the presentations were Maj. Greg Long, 50th SW; business agents from the local unions: Mark Johnson (IBEW Local 113, Norm Bryant (UA Local 58), Brian Summers (Sheet Metal Workers Local 9) and Rudy Ortiz, Jr. (IBL Local 578); and Wade Osburn, MLI Project General Manager.

AFSPC announces operations squadron commander selection board

Capt. Lorinda Fedrick
AFSPC PERSONNEL DIRECTORATE

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. - Air Force Space Command holds its annual Vigilant Eagle Operations Squadron Commander Selection board here Aug. 16-17.

The board will identify candidates to fill over 30 projected space and missile squadron command vacancies in calendar year 2002. Command opportunities include satellite command and control, intercontinental ballistic missile, spacelift, test, missile warning and space surveillance squadrons, among others.

Board membership has expanded this year to include the Space and Missile Center commander and the National Reconnaissance Office senior Air Force officer. Their representation underscores AFSPC's commitment to build well-rounded space

professionals.

The Space Commission report earlier this year stated, "Military space professionals will have to master highly complex technology; develop new doctrine and concepts of operations for space launch, offensive and defensive space operations, power projection in, from and through space and other military uses of space; and operate some of the most complex systems ever built and deployed."

The expected crossflow of officers from SMC and NRO puts AFSPC on a course to fulfill the commission's recommendation.

Other Vigilant Eagle members include the AFSPC vice commander, who serves as the board president; the AFSPC director of operations; the 14th and 20th Air Force commanders; the Space Warfare Center commander and each AFSPC wing commander. Additionally, Air Education

Training Command's 381st Training Group commander is also a member. The 381st at Vandenberg AFB, Calif., trains future space and missile officers and typically fills its squadron commander positions from the candidate list.

The primary pool of candidates is filled with lieutenant colonels and lieutenant colonel selects who are core 13S (space and missile) officers. However, the opportunity for command is open to all specialty codes provided the officers have had at least one space-related assignment and are released by their Air Force Personnel Center functional manager. All nominees must meet general eligibility requirements.

To view the Vigilant Eagle announcement message outlining eligibility criteria, submission procedures, suspenses and board composition, view the web site at <https://midway.peterson.af.mil/2letters/dp/vigilanteagle.htm>. A listing of all eligible and nominated officers can also be found there.

Any questions on Vigilant Eagle should be directed to Capt. Frank Mills at DSN 692-3470 or Capt. Shane Clark at DSN 692-2690. Board questions can also be sent via e-mail to vigilant.eagle@peterson.af.mil.

AEF Center offers new Web format

Lt. col. BRYAN HOLT

AEROSPACE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE CENTER

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFPN) — The Air Force’s Web-based deployment tool, EAF Online, has been redesigned to give airmen more help with Air Expeditionary Force issues.

The Aerospace Expeditionary Force Center here redesigned the Web site to give users more information, enhanced access and the convenience of a single source for all AEF deployment information. The center is the agency for implementing the Air Force’s EAF concept.

“This is a major milestone to provide better service to those deploying,” said Lt. Col. Marie Barboza, the AEF Center’s project officer for EAF Online.

The new format combines features of the previous AEFC site into a Web “portal” which pro-

vides access to various databases and can be customized for each user. The site offers an array of information including deployment checklists, the AEF Commanders’ Playbook, lessons learned, and the newest feature, the Commanders’ Toolkit.

The major attraction for deployers is the position descriptions with information on the duties, requirements and conditions of specific deployed positions. Users get the information by first registering at the site, which establishes their profile. Future logins will provide information tailored to the user’s career field. The deployment checklist includes training, medical status and other qualifications required for deployment, as well as links to references. Commanders can track training requirements of their people.

The Commander’s Toolkit upgrade to EAF Online allows

commanders to track the deployment status of their unit and people. Future enhancements will include a training module to track skill level training and a module to track operations tempo. All modules are updated by pulling data from existing Air Force data sources, such as the Personnel Data System.

“EAF Online is also very beneficial to Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members,” Barboza said. The position descriptions and the Commanders’ Toolkits include information for active, Guard and Reserve personnel.

The restricted Web site can be accessed via military and government computers at <https://aefcenter.acc.af.mil/>. The AEFC has also added a new public Web site accessible from any computer. It can be accessed through EAF Online or directly at <http://aefc.langley.af.mil>.

Updated daily, the unclassified site allows users to link to EAF/AEF activities, theater information and other key issues.

“As the AEF construct matures, the unclassified Web site provides critical information on how the Air Force conducts business in the 21st century to the general public, family members and news media representatives,” Barboza said . “This also allows Air Force people to get certain AEF information from

their home computers.

The sites offer “one-stop shopping” for those eligible to deploy and those who want more information about the EAF concept and AEF process. Individuals can also provide feedback through EAF Online.

“It is critical that everyone identified for an AEF should go to EAF Online to obtain the latest information they need for their deployment,” Barboza said.

Double your intake.
If you aren’t looking at the United States Air Force Online News as an additional source of information, you aren’t getting all of the news.
Check it all out at:
<http://www.af.mil/newspaper>

Enlisted Air Force Cross recipient retires

TECH. SGT. GINGER SCHREITMUELLER
Air Force Special Operations Command Public Affairs

HURLBURT FIELD, Fla. (AFPN) — Surrounded by Air Force Special Operations Command family and friends, Master Sgt. Tim Wilkinson, the only enlisted Air Force Cross recipient on active duty, retired during a ceremony here last Friday.

Wilkinson, a pararescueman, earned the Air Force Cross for his heroic efforts while supporting Task Force Ranger during an 18-hour firefight in Mogadishu, Somalia, in 1993. He became the first enlisted person to earn the Air Force Cross since 1975, bringing the total of enlisted honorees to 21.

That day in 1993 began with a mission to capture several key rebel clan leaders. The plan was a “simple” one — go in, get the men and get out. But, fate would play a trump card.

As the U.S. Army UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters dropped in Army Rangers to the target area, Somali militiamen were waiting. A rocket-propelled grenade downed one of the Blackhawks, sending it crashing to the streets below.

“We were in the heart of bad guy territory,” Wilkinson said. “We thought the whole mission would be simple — go in, do the job and get out within 30 minutes. Instead we stumbled into a hornet’s nest.”

On the ground, Wilkinson and a fellow pararescueman set

about treating and recovering the downed helicopter crew. The embattled members of Task Force Ranger defending the crash site were holed up in a block of buildings that would later be dubbed “the Alamo.”

“There were some tense moments where we weren’t sure we’d make it out. But no one would say it out loud,” he said.

Small arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades crisscrossed the streets. As Rangers kept the Somali militia at bay, Wilkinson would race through the fury to retrieve wounded and dead American soldiers.

Even when shrapnel tore a chunk of skin off his face, Wilkinson did not falter.

As gunfire turned the city’s streets into a shooting gallery, Wilkinson would continue to risk his life to retrieve fallen comrades. When supplies and ammunition dwindled, he would zip outdoors to retrieve airdropped supplies. Reinforcements finally cut through the resistance to evacuate the task force.

Among the snapshot images Wilkinson remembers is when he finally returned to the base camp.

“Walking back into the hangar where we were staying, it hit me how much impact the situation had on our team,” he said. “We lost 18 guys that day and 80 more were wounded. You looked around the hangar and saw all the empty bunks, and realized the toll this took on Task Force Ranger.

Wilkinson downplays his actions as part of the job. Being a hero is not a tagline he is comfortable with.

“I didn’t do anything spectacular. People were counting on me to do what I’m paid to do,” he said. “I was just holding up my end of the deal on a bad day; everyone there was doing what was expected of them. It’s not to downplay the graveness of the situation, I just happened to be the most capable at the time to do what needed to be done. Not any-



Master Sgt. Tim Wilkinson, the only enlisted Air Force Cross recipient on active duty, retired July 20 during a ceremony at Hurlburt Field, Fla. Wilkinson, a pararescueman, earned the Air Force Cross in 1993 for his heroic efforts while supporting Task Force Ranger during an 18-hour firefight in Mogadishu, Somalia.

thing you’ll ever do, you’ll do alone. This was a team effort. It is always a team effort.”

With his personal team — his two daughters and mother — watching the ceremony, Wilkinson retired from the Air Force after more than 20 years of service to the nation.

His former team leader, and now commander of the 24th Special Tactics Squadron, applauded Wilkinson as a multi-faceted man. Lt. Col. Kenneth Rodriguez and Wilkinson were members of Silver Team at the 24th STS, Pope Air Force Base, N.C., when they deployed in support of the task force in Somalia.

“Tim is a consummate warrior, a quintessential rescue-man, a leader, a professional, a friend, a teammate, and an American hero,” Rodriguez said. “His leadership and experience cannot be replaced. But, he leaves his mark behind in all those who know him. I see it in the eyes of those he taught; I see it in the mirror. It’s been a true honor to serve alongside and under the same flag as Tim Wilkinson.”

Along with earning the Air Force Cross, the PJ also earned the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in the Somalia battle; was the 1994 recipient of the Air Force Sergeants Association Pitsenbarger Award for heroism; and one of the Air Force 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

Law changes for children’s passports

Law intends to lessen chance parents can abduct their children and use U.S. passports to escape with them overseas

GERRY GILMORE
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Under a new law that became effective July 2, the State Department now requires both parents’ consent to obtain passports and visas for overseas travel of children younger than 14.

The intent of the law is to lessen the chance that parents can abduct their children and use U.S. passports to escape with them overseas, said John M. Hotchner, acting managing director of the State Department’s office of passport services.

The State Department is working on about 1,000 over-

seas child abduction cases, he said.

The law affects servicemembers, who are required to secure passports for spouses and children accompanying them to overseas duty stations, Hotchner said.

Servicemembers themselves do not require passports, because they fall under military Status of Forces Agreements, he said.

Department of Defense civilian employees are required to secure passports for themselves and nonmilitary family members who will be accompanying them to overseas duty assignments, Hotchner said.

Both parents must now sign children’s passport application forms, unless one parent is unavailable because of geographical separation, divorce or other circumstances, he said.

In this case, Hotchner said, the parent applying for a child’s passport needs a signed, nonnotarized letter or statement from the absent parent that provides permission to take the child or children overseas.

Hotchner said he has already heard of instances where permission letters were faxed from overseas.

Separated or divorced military or DoD civilians with sole custody agreements should not have a problem obtaining passports for their children under the new law, Hotchner said.

“It is fairly easy if there is a custody order,” he said.

“If one parent has sole custody, then consent from the other parent isn’t necessary.”

Hotchner said the new law complements an existing program that allows parents concerned about possible abduction to register a child younger than 18, with the State Department’s office of children’s issues. The custodial parent files a copy of the (sole) custody order with the State Department. Should the noncustodial parent then apply for a passport, it would not be issued, he said.

Ultimately, Hotchner said, the parents themselves must resolve issues affecting their children’s passports.

“We’ll take a look at any kind of documentation that an individual parent wants to submit that will help to overcome the presumption that there should be a second parent signing the passport application,” he said.

“... They’ll have to work it out between themselves and, if necessary, resort to the courts to get it settled,” Hotchner said, referring to instances when one of the parents simply will not consent or participate in the process.

A court-sanctioned custody agreement between separated or divorced parents can award custody to an individual parent and require that the couple work out travel arrangements, Hotchner said. For instance, it can be written to prevent a child from going abroad without both parents’ permission.

Requirement calls GM3 to Guam

Staff Sgt. Jennifer Thibault
50th Space Wing Public Affairs

As dawn gave hints of its soon arrival, crew members of the Ground Mobile-3 gathered for their annual deployment.

An annual requirement calls for the crew of the GM-3 to command the Milstar constellation from either Europe or the Pacific. Therefore the early morning hour was necessary for the crew to load their mobile command and control vehicle onto a C-5 and transport it to Guam.

"This 20-day deployment, was designed to meet an annual requirement to exercise the 4th Space Operations Squadron contingency mission," said Capt. Josh Brooks, a one-year veteran of the mobiles. The GM-3 is one of only three mobile van units home based in the United States.

Of the ten members deploying this time, only five have actually been associated with the mobiles program for more than a year. However on the Peterson Air Force Base flightline this morning, only one person has actually deployed with the GM-3 via the C-5 before, but he's not making this trip.

"I have deployed with STRATCOM in GM-1 but this is my first overseas deployment with our mobile mission," said Capt. Dave Martinson, EHF operator.

The deployment team is responsible for providing critical commanding to support users, anomaly resolution, monitoring

satellite and constellation health and assisting in connectivity restoration.

Even though the entire crew had only been working together with the GM-3 for a short period of time, the loading process progressed extremely well after the arrival of the C-5 ground crew. In fact, Staff Sgt. Dennis Fagnant, terminal operator and truck driver, surprisingly reversed the GM-3 unit onto the C-5 on his first try. (A feat his coworkers didn't bet on.) Some members of the unit are sent to truck driving school to learn how to transport the semi and its load—the GM-3.

Not only is the unit self-contained but self-sufficient as well. "Our deployment duties, performing command and control on the constellation are the same as the ops floor at Schriever, however we have additional duties such as providing security since the mobile is a B asset," said Brooks. "Since we have the added responsibility of providing our own force protection, something we often take for granted at Schriever, all of our mobile folks are weapons qualified," said Martinson. The crew also deploys with its own maintenance personnel and spare parts, should a need for them arise.

But, "knowing that we are ensuring secure and survivable tactical and strategic communication by commanding the Milstar constellation from deployed locations," makes it all worth while for Martinson.



"Most of us love being assigned to a high vis section, it keeps things very interesting," said Brooks.

Contingency operations are only one of GM-3's missions. The unit also acts as backup to control the Milstar constellation. Because of its importance, crewmembers man the van and perform operations three days a week.

The vehicle cost \$20 million, not including personnel. The other mobile van units are located at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., and F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.

A C-5 bound for Guam, drops its nose to allow the 4th Space Operations Squadron crew to load up their Ground Mobile-3 equipment for an annual deployment.



Staff Sgt. Patrick McCullough, 4th Space Operations Squadron maintainer, straps down spare equipment in the six pack.



Capt. Josh Brooks, chief mobiles, and Senior Airman Jason Gray, 4th SOPS maintainer, disconnect stabilizers from the antenna pallet for mobilization. Brooks is deploying with the GM-3 to Guam.



Loadmaster for the C-5 directs Staff Sgt. Dennis Fagnant, driver of the semi, onto the C-5. Fagnant was able to get the semi and its load onto the C-5 in just one try.

Senior Airman Bill Eller, 4th SOPS maintainer, disconnects cables that run from the antenna to the Ground Mobile-3.



The Ground Mobile-3 unit is backed onto the C-5 Tuesday in preparation for their annual deployment to practice contingency operations.

ATWIND breezin' along



Amy Turner
AFSPC Services Directorate

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Some Air Force Space Command members have made it all the way around the world while others are only halfway there, but the horizon looks clear for the rest of the summer.

That's the forecast for those participating in the command's "Around the World in Ninety Days" Services summer promotion, or ATWIND.

The ATWIND program takes competitors on a virtual tour around the world, the goal being to travel from one landmark destination to another with players earning travel miles each time they participate in an ATWIND event.

It was developed by Air Mobility Command three years ago to increase awareness and participation

in several of its on-base programs. With the success of the AMC program, AFSPC decided to join in the competition.

"In its first year, AFSPC has seen some astronomical results so far," said Bonnie Runge, marketing and commercial sponsorship specialist for HQ AFSPC.

With the 12-week competition half over, AFSPC participants have registered 350,000 game pieces, accessed the Web site 150,000 times, and made more than 25,000 phone calls to the ATWIND hotline, according to Runge.

Of these competitors, more than 1,800 have instantly won prizes.

Instant prizes include promotional T-shirts, Services gift certificates, color televisions and cash. Grand prizes include vacation trips for two, desktop computer systems, and several Ford Motor Company vehicles.

Individuals aren't the only ones competing for prizes in the program.

Each AFSPC space wing is competing for dollars to be added to its quality-of-life programs. Bases must accomplish their ATWIND missions, which require them to reach a player-participation level of the eligible population.

At the end of the program, August 31, the base with the highest participation level will be awarded \$55,000. Second place will receive \$25,000, and third will earn \$10,000.

Several of the geographically separated units within the commands are also eligible. They are competing among themselves for \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$2,000.

For more information on ATWIND, log on to the Web site at www.atwind.com <<http://www.atwind.com>>, call the ATWIND hotline toll-free at 1-888-597-9960 or contact local AFSPC Services.



▲ Jerry Ray, 50th Civil Engineer Squadron, relays the ball to first base after forcing the Det. 11 shortstop out at second. Umpire Darnice Robinson right photo there to make the call. CES scored 19 runs in the first inning helping them to crush Det. 11 28-7.

John Limousin, CES, slides safely into home during CE’s seven run second inning. ►



NATIONAL SOFTBALL LEAGUE STANDINGS		
PLACE	UNIT	RECORD
1st	18 IS	12-1
2nd	50 OSS	11-2
3rd	50 CG	8-3
4th	310 SPACE GROUP	8-5
5th	3 SOPS	7-5
6th	1 SOPS	5-8
7th	HQ SWC	3-8
8th	17 TS	11-1
9th	50 OG/OGV	0-12
[REDACTED]		
[REDACTED]		
[REDACTED]		
AMERICAN SOFTBALL LEAGUE STANDINGS		
PLACE	UNIT	RECORD
1st	2 SOPS	13-0
2nd	50 CES	10-3
3rd	50 SFS	9-4
4th	NOPS	7-6
5th	JTNF	6-6
6th	DET 11	5-9
7th	50 MSS	4-8
8th	SMC/TEOC	2-11
9th	4 SOPS	2-12

NCO Academy system expands

CARL BERQQUIST
Air University Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. (AFPN) — The Air Force is expanding its capability to provide training to midlevel non-commissioned officers with the addition of a 13-flight NCO Academy at Gunter Annex in Montgomery, Ala.

The addition of the school, with classes scheduled to start in January 2003, will bring the number of Air Force NCO academies worldwide to 14.

Students attending the new school will be “an overflow of NCOs requiring this training — not to mention any ‘must-trains’ who may have a line number to master sergeant,” said Chief Master Sgt. Vickie Helms, Gunter NCO Academy commandant.

National Guard and Reserve students will also take classes at the Gunter school.

The purpose of NCO Academy training is to provide leadership skills, communications

skills and profession of arms knowledge to enhance a student’s ability as an NCO, Helms said.

The new facility at Gunter will train 1,183 students annually, Helms said.

The course is 28 academic days long with seven classes scheduled per year.

“Our staff is projected to consist of 27 active-duty (people),” Helms said. “There is a

great need for technical sergeants to apply for instructor positions. We have 16 slots to fill.”

The school is already hiring, she said.

To meet university academic standards, instructors must have a two-year or higher college degree, Helms said.

The NCO Academy is the second level of professional military education, and graduation from it is necessary for promotion to master sergeant. The first level of PME is Airman Leadership School, and the top echelon is the Air Force Senior NCO Academy. *(Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service)*



Officer Promotion Increments for August

Colonel Boards

Board	Quota	Thru Seq #	# Remaining
LAF, CY00A	32	128	526
CHAP, CY00A	1	4	4
JAG, CY01A	2	2	26
NC, CY99A	1	18	3
MSC, CY01A	1	2	9
BSC, CY00A	1	8	10
*list exhausted			

Lieutenant Colonel Boards

Board	Quota	Thru Seq #	# Remaining
LAF, CY00A	129	387	902
CHAP, CY00A	2	4	18
JAG, CY99B	3	36	4
NC, CY00A	7	28	47
MSC, CY00A	4	18	12
BSC, CY99B	4	47	8

Major Boards

Board	Quota	Thru Seq #	# Remaining
LAF, CY00B	166	830	827
CHAP, CY00B	2	8	9
JAG, CY00B	6	24	25
NC, CY00A	12	100	60
MSC, CY00A	4	30	12
BSC, CY00B	12	36	56
*list exhausted			

Enlisted Line Numbers for December

Rank	Line Numbers
Chief Master Sergeant	0256-0294
Senior Master Sergeant	0525-0654
Master Sergeant	0001-0594
Technical Sergeant	0001-0998
Staff Sergeant	18177-all remaining

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Information Tickets and Tours

Tickets for the following events are available at the Information, Tickets and Tours office located in Bldg. 300, Rm. 146. For more information call ITT at 7-6050.

Pikes Peak Rodeo or Bust

Purchase tickets for the 61st Annual Pikes Peak Rodeo at the Schriever ITT office and receive an ATWIND game piece. Tickets are \$7 each and must be purchased by Aug. 7.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey present ...

“The Greatest Show On Earth” Aug. 22-26 at the World Arena. Cost is \$17 per ticket for lower bowl seating.

Colorado Ocean Journey

The Colorado Ocean Journey is a place where visitors can follow the paths of two distinctly different rivers from their mountaintop beginnings to their ocean deltas. The Colorado River Journey recreates the 1,500-mile excursion from the snow-capped peaks of the Rocky Mountains to the Sea of Cortez.

After the Ocean Journey tour, visit the 16th Street Mall where you can shop, dine

and relax. Cost for this trip is \$24 for adults and \$15 for children and includes transportation and entry fees. Deadline to register is noon Aug. 3.

Elitch Gardens-Six Flags

Enjoy a full day at this rides and water theme park in Denver. Cost is \$29 for adults and children who are over 48 inches tall. Children under 48 inches must purchase tickets at the gate for \$16.49. Price includes transportation and entry fees. Deadline to register is Tuesday by noon.

Jazz in the Parks

For free concerts, take advantage of Jazz in the Parks. Each Wednesday evening through Sept. 5 there will be a different band playing in a different park. All concerts go from about 6:30-8:30 p.m. So bring your favorite lawn chair and enjoy an evening of music brought to you by regional artists.

Coming up on Wednesday, hear the sounds of the Dave Innis Quartet in Antlers Park.

For more information, visit the Jazz in the Parks Website at www.colorado-springs.com/parksrec/concerts/jazz.htm.

Fun Run

There is an ATWIND Fun Run today.

Please meet in front of the Schriever Fitness Center at 7 a.m. Run the perimeter and receive an ATWIND ticket.

For more information, please call the Fitness Center 7-3338.

Triathlon

The 1st Annual Schriever Triathlon is scheduled for August 31 at 9 a.m. The race starts at the Peterson Air Force Base Aquatic Center with a 500 meter swim. Contestants then bicycle to Schriever on a 16-mile route and finish up by running the perimeter (3.4 miles).

Registration is limited, so please contact the Schriever Fitness Center as soon as possible at 7-3338. .

Colonel Perroni retirement dinner

Today is the last day to sign up for 50th Space Wing Vice Commander Col. “Jack” Perroni’s retirement dinner. The event will be held Thursday at the Peterson Enlisted Club starting at 6 p.m.

Entertainment will be provided by Galaxy Brass, from the Band of the Rockies. In addition, a pianist will provide background music during the

social and dinner hours.

The dress for this event is very casual—”no socks” and costs \$14 for club members and their guests or \$17 for non-club members.

For more information or to sign up, see your unit contact or call Capt. Kevin Mortensen at 7-3661.

Annual mail/bomb threat training

Mail- and bomb-threat training will be held for all mail handlers on Monday at 9 and 10:30 a.m. in the Bldg. 300 auditorium. Anyone interested in attending this training is welcome. For more information, contact Greg Cummins at gregory.cummins@schriever.af.mil.

YMCA returns

The YMCA staff will be at Schriever Aug. 17, and then monthly until the opening of the new Southeast Family Center in April.

Information on programs and membership fees are available at family support in Bldg. 210, Rm. 313 or call Tricia Czepiel at 7-3920. If you would like to sign up for membership under the Schriever corporate membership prior to their next visit, please call or stop by family support for discount card and details.

NEED TO KNOW